

The following information, which was not a part of this file, was provided by another US Government agency in 2003 as responsive to the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act

Arturs Leonids Brombergs¹

Prior to World War II Leonids Brombergs served in the Latvian Army and the Riga police department. From July 1941 to July 1943 he served as a policeman in the 12th precinct of the Riga police force, eventually attaining the rank of lieutenant. At that time Latvia was part of the German Reich Commissariat Ostland, with its headquarters in Riga.

During the early months of the German occupation German killing units (Einsatzgruppen) and specially recruited Latvian auxiliaries repeatedly massacred groups of Jews. In mid-August 1941 German occupation authorities ordered the establishment of a Jewish ghetto in the southeastern section of Riga. Shortly afterwards the regular Latvian police carried out a systematic search of all dwellings in the city, looking for Jews and arresting those who did not bear the required Jewish star on their clothing.² In October 1941 the Riga ghetto was sealed. Liquidation of the Riga ghetto began on November 30, 1941, and in the course of the next eight days nearly 25,000 Jews from the Riga ghetto (and a small number of German Jews deported to Riga) were shot by Germans and Latvian auxiliaries in the Rumbuli forest, five miles southeast of Riga. By 1943 only a few thousand Jews were left alive in the Riga ghetto. The regular Latvian police thus served as part of a force which captured and extinguished most of Riga's Jews.

In the summer of 1943 Brombergs was transferred to the *SS-Freiwillige-Division*, where he served as a First Lieutenant (*SS-Untersturmführer*). In 1944 Brombergs served with the 15th SS Division.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

¹ The Berlin Document Center records give Brombergs' name as Leonids Brombergs, while the IWG list has the name as Arturs Leonids Brombergs

² Latvian State Historical Archives, P-1376, O-1, F 63.